

SEP 21 1999

J. GREGOIRE DE ROULHAC

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September 21, 1999

CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear CALFED Committee,

I am a citrus grower with 94 acres of groves in the Porterville area.

I would urge the committee to remove political agendas and influences from its decisions.

A healthy Bay-Delta can be achieved without wreaking economic hardship on the farmers of California. The concept of trying to achieve an environmentally healthy Bay-Delta by taking land and water from California's farmers, as proposed in your preferred alternative, is neither an equitable nor a prudent policy.

The farmers of California do not produce widgets or buggy whips. They produce food. This food contributes to the welfare of the state and the nation as well as contributing significantly to our Nations exports.

The fundamental population growth which will occur in this state in the next 20 years will require more food, not less, more land, not less and more water, not less.

A viable solution exists for the problems you are seeking to solve. Increase water storage facilities so that we may better utilize both rain fall and snow runoff. Increased storage facilities will help everybody in the state survive the drought years which are a part of California's weather pattern.

An increase in water storage facilities will provide water for a healthy Bay-Delta and adequate water for the farmers of California and for the future populations of the state.

I urge the committee to re-evaluate its position and take into account the needs of the farmers of this state, the urban dwellers and the future population of this state. You have an opportunity to do something significant for the future of this state. Do not waste this opportunity.

Sincerely,


J. Gregoire de Roulhac

cc.
Barbara Boxer
Diane Feinstein
Lois Capps